

REMARKS

New claims 49-98 are presented.

Claims 49-67 are copies of claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent 6,940,456 to Wielsma, which patent issued on September 6, 2005, less than one year prior to this date, except that claims 52, 59 and 65 are amended from patent claims 4, 11 and 17, respectively, and a typographical error has been corrected in claim 61 from patent claim 13. Claims 68-84 are copies of claims 1-5, 7-12 and 15-20 of U.S. Patent 6,977,626 to Wielsma, which patent issued on December 20, 2005, less than one year prior to this date, except than claim 73 is amended from patent claim 7 and a typographical error has been corrected in claim 80 from patent claim 16. Claims 85-98 are copies of allowed claims 21-24, 26-32 and 34-36 of U.S. Patent Application 11/108,326 to Wielsma, which patent has been allowed and is yet to issue, except that claims 89 and 96 are amended from allowed claims 26 and 34, respectively.

This application was filed on March 1, 2002, prior to the publications of the patent applications which resulted in Wielsma Patents 6,940,456 and 6,977,626, and prior to the publication of Wielsma patent application 11/108,326.

Telephone Conversation

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone conversation conducted on August 8, 2006 with Applicant's undersigned representative. During the interview, Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed the status of the Office Action issued herein on July 19, 2006 and agreed that it was to be withdrawn in light of Applicant's having filed a Request for Continued Examination on June 30, 2006 with a Preliminary Amendment canceling claims 1-4 and 6-36, which were the subject of the Office Action, and adding claims 37-48. Applicant's representative also informed the Examiner that Applicant was considering filing a Supplemental Amendment, and would do so shortly. This Supplemental Amendment is that filing, and it adds new claims 49-98 as discussed above.

Merits
of the
case not
discussed.
Call was
for information
purposes only.
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